

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 9, 2006. Claims 1 to 46 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 12, 23, 33 and 40 being in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment accorded Applicants' representative during the March 7, 2006 telephonic interview.

During the interview, the Examiner and Applicants' representative discussed the art of record, particularly U.S. Patent No. 5,978,560 (Tan). Applicants' representative argued that Tan is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the claimed feature that a determination of whether to reproduce reproduction data is based on whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria for selecting the reproduction data, wherein the selection criteria is included within a rule set.

Attention was directed to column 3, lines 46 to 64 of Tan, which is seen to disclose that print jobs are associated with logical printers and physical printers. In particular, logical printers indicate particular characteristics and capabilities of printers, and physical printers indicate actual output devices.

Applicants' representative argued that this cited portion of Tan is seen to look to the status of printers (e.g., characteristics and capabilities of the printers) when associating print jobs with actual printers. However, nothing in Tan is seen to disclose that a determination is made for whether to reproduce reproduction data, muchless that such a

determination is based on whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria included within a rule set.

The Examiner agreed with the arguments presented by the Applicants' representative. In addition, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the outstanding § 102(e) rejection<sup>1</sup> (see Footnote 1) rejection in response to this filing. Such action is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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<sup>1</sup>Claims 1 to 7, 11 to 18, 22 to 28, 32 to 36, 39 to 43 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) over Tan.